MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) :

(1) (*a*) Christians ... 2
Nayars ... 4
Brahmins ... Nil.
Saraswat Brahmins ... Nil.
Ezhavas ... Nil.
Muslim ... 1

(*b*) Brahmin ... 1
Ezhava ... 1
Saraswat Brahmin ... 1
Muslim ... 1

(*c*) The number of Official Councillors is 2, of whom one is a Nayar and the other a Christian.

(*d*) 4.

(*e*) i. Mr. N. V. Joseph, B. A., B. L.;
ii. Khan Sahib M. K. Kadir Pillai;
iii. Mr. E. Kochumman; and
iv. Mr. A. M. Varkey, M. A., B. L.

(2) (*a*) A Muslim used to be nominated very often in the past.

(*b*) A Muslim member has been nominated recently.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Yes.

Procedure re disposal of applications for opening places of public worship.

438. MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points, regarding the disposal of applications for grant of permission to open places of public worship :—

(*a*) the number of applications received by them during the last six years;

(*b*) the number of such applications allowed by them and the number rejected;

(*c*) how many of the rejected applications were from—
(i) Christians;
(ii) Mahomedans; and
(iii) Hindus;

(*d*) whether there is a practice of sending such applications to the Devaswom Department;

(*e*) if so, from which date;

(*f*) whether that procedure is sanctioned by any Regulation or rule;

(*g*) if so, what that Regulation or rule is; and

(*h*) whether they are aware that hardship is caused to some sections of His Highness' subjects in following this practice?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) to (*c*) A statement* showing the information required by the member is laid on the table.

* *Vide* Appendix IV— page iv.

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[Mr. K. George.]

(*d*) to (*g*) The member is referred to the answer to interpellation No. 158 part (*e*).

(*h*) No.

Construction of the road to the sanatorium near Mahendragiri.

439. **MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Karunagapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any progress has been made in 1107 in the construction of the road to the new sanatorium near Mahendragiri ;

(*b*) whether any, and, if so, what funds were spent this year for carrying out the work ;

(*c*) whether the road from Kadakkarai, as at present aligned would stop at the frontier near the British territory and whether the Travancore people proceeding to the sanatorium will have to pass along British territory before they can reach their destination ; and

(*d*) whether they have considered the possibility of opening up a route beginning from the Karimpara-Mahendragiri road through the Panagudi pass and whether such route would open up large tracts of unexplored forest regions and thus enrich the country ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The construction of the road has yet to be taken up, but the investigation of the line is proceeding.

(*b*) No funds were spent for the construction of the road, but a sum of Rs. 505 has been spent for investigating the line.

(*c*) No. The road aligned runs straight to the site of the sanatorium and lies wholly within Travancore.

(*d*) There is such a proposal, but the possibility of it can be ascertained only after investigation.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : In regard to the construction of this road to Mahendragiri, have Government allotted any funds this year ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Have the estimates and plans, necessary for the construction of the road, been prepared ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : May I know then why Rs. 505 has been spent ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : For investigation.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : At what stage is the investigation at present ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : It has been completed.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Then, what more remains to be done before the construction is taken up ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : The heavy cost of the road, the heavy compensation required to be paid for acquisition and the want of money stand in the way of taking up the construction of the road.

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Appendix IV.

***Vide* Answer to Question No 438.**

Statemen applications for the erection of places of public worship from 1101 to 1106 M. E.

Year.	From Christians.				From Muslims.				From Hindus.			
	No. received.	No. granted.	No. rejected.	No. with-drawn.	No. received.	No. granted.	No. rejected.	No. with-drawn.	No. received	No. granted.	No. rejected	No. with-drawn.
1101 .	73	53	20	..	6	2	4	..	..	..	..	..
1102 .	79	57	22	..	11	7	4	..	2	..	2	..
1103 .	54	36	16	2	8	5	3	..	3	2	1	..
1104 .	68	46	21	1	9	5	4	..	2	2	..	..
1105 .	83	55	26	2	7	5	2	.	2	1	1	..
1106 .	47	24	23	..	8	..	8	..	..	..	..	..
Total .	404	271	128	5	49	24	25	Nil.	9	5	4	Nil